



The CALVERT COURIER

WINTER 2008

Serving California's Forty-Fourth District

Dear Friends,

As a former small business owner, I understand how even the smallest downturn in the economy can negatively impact businesses and families. No one can deny that our economy is experiencing a slow down in growth. The Federal Reserve recently lowered their forecast for economic growth this year to between 1.3% and 2%, half a percentage point below the level of their previous forecast. The slowing of the economy impacts everyone in our country.

As households reduce expenditures, some businesses have experienced a decrease in revenue. If this trend continues for too long, businesses will make cuts in personnel and recapitalization projects. Right now, businesses need incentives if they are going to continue to grow and invest in their businesses. Individuals and families are looking for relief from rising prices and the reassurance that their jobs are secure. The stimulus package recently passed by Congress and signed into law includes incentives for small businesses, such as bonus depreciation on new equipment and provisions to allow for full expensing of property. Most American families and individuals will receive a tax rebate this summer and homeowners hoping to refinance their homes have more options, but will not receive a government bailout. To learn the details of the stimulus package please visit my website at www.calvert.house.gov.

The most important action I can take to help our economy is to vote to keep our federal tax rates low. As I have done before, I will vote to extend the tax cuts first enacted in 2001 and 2003.

I will continue to work with my colleagues so that small businesses have the tools to grow, families receive much-needed relief and homeowners have more realistic refinancing options. It is an honor to represent you in Congress and please contact my office with your input.

KEN CALVERT
Member of Congress



Support the Troops
www.americasupportsyou.mil

P.S. Please sign up for my e-newsletter through my website at www.calvert.house.gov.

Contact Representative Ken Calvert at one of the following addresses or through his website www.calvert.house.gov:

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M.C.

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ALERT! Did You Know You Can Register to Vote Up to 15 Days Before An Election?

The Dates of Upcoming Elections: June 3, 2008 State Primary Election and November 4, 2008 General Election

Where do I obtain a form to register? Your local Post Office, library, Department of Motor Vehicles, city and county offices, 800-773-VOTE or www.voteinfo.net. Mail your form to register to vote! The postage is pre-paid. Just drop it in any mailbox. Visit the appropriate website below to register to vote in your county:

Riverside County

www.election.co.riverside.ca.us or (951) 486-7200

Orange County

www.ocvote.com or (714) 567-7600

Moving Goods, Helping Commuters

On January 23, 2008 Rep. Calvert introduced the ON TIME Act, H.R. 5102. The bill imposes a freight fee (.075% capped at \$500) on the value of goods imported and exported at every port of entry in the U.S. The revenue from the fee—every dollar collected—would be returned to the areas extending from the port of entry impacted by goods movement. The corridors, called National Trade Gateway Corridors (NTGC), would include routes up to 300 miles from points of entry. NTGCs will be defined by the Department of Transportation in consultation with the Department of Commerce so that they can pinpoint the routes taken by goods as they leave ports, airports, or border crossings.

Too often, only the immediate areas around a port receive the substantial transportation dollars, when in fact the trucks and rail cars that leave the ports choke traffic and impact commuters and businesses far beyond the port complexes. A state's transportation department will be required to work in conjunction with local governments and transportation planning agencies and to take input from industry to select these projects. For more on the ONTIME Act, visit www.calvert.house.gov.

"As individuals traveling on our nation's transportation system, we want to spend less time traveling and more time living. Concurrently, businesses want to see an improved transportation system so that their cost of doing business is reduced."

—REP. CALVERT



REP. CALVERT meets with Marines at Camp Pendleton to discuss ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and thank them for their service.

COMBATING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION – A CALVERT PRIORITY

Rep. Calvert actively works to fix our broken illegal immigration system:

- Opposed to amnesty – we should not reward illegal behavior with U.S. citizenship. It is also unfair to those who are applying to enter the country legally.
- Voted for The Secure Fence Act and the funding required to build the fence. Working to rescind language included in the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations bill that reversed fencing mandates in The Secure Fence Act.
- Created the program known as E-Verify which allows employers to check the veracity of identification documents given by an employee for the I-9 form. The only tool available to employers to check the legal status of new employees. Introduced legislation this Congress that would make employment verification mandatory. If we cut off the magnet of jobs, we will cut off the incentive to immigrate here illegally. Over 50,000 businesses are currently using E-Verify.
- Supports the National Guard's mission on the border.
- Do not punish our Border Patrol agents – such as Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean – for doing their jobs. A co-sponsor of H.R. 563 to provide a congressional pardon for Ramos and Compean.